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soone passe it which gave y<sup>m</sup> time to run for it and y<sup>e</sup> night drawing neere wee did not persue till next morning ; and then it was too late ; but well enough ; for y<sup>e</sup> fled to Dublin and made short stay there ; for King James, Terconnell Ec<sup>e</sup> flew through the county of Wickloe in order as I suppose to take shipping at the y<sup>e</sup> first port where they can find vessells to transport them ; we killed beside prisoners betweene 6 & 7 thousand, most of there best officers lay ded and gasping upon y<sup>e</sup> ground ; wee lost Duke Shonberg killed in y<sup>e</sup> neck with a muskett ball & somme few officers & soldiers inconsiderable for sutch an engagement ; the enemy is so disperced and threw away their armes & run westward y<sup>t</sup> there is no danger of there ever Ralling againe, so y<sup>t</sup> you may be pleased with the event of a few howers fighting which brings you all home to y<sup>r</sup> safe interests & propertys, which I desier may bee for my owne sake as well as yours as soone as you can ; my servise to y<sup>e</sup> family of Hobs & Nobs ; and y<sup>e</sup> Salley stakes are once againe freely at y<sup>r</sup> servise, who am,

“ Madam

“ Y<sup>r</sup> one hum<sup>ble</sup> Servant

“ MEATH.

“ Pray let Matt Anderson & all our friends partake of this thuth we tooke Lieut<sup>t</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> Hamilton prisoner who I believe will soone be executed. I am sent for to y<sup>e</sup> Campe neere Glasscneivn and can add no more particulars att present.”

The thanks of the Academy were returned to Sir George Hodson, Bart., for his permission to exhibit and publish the abovementioned letter.

J. Kells Ingram, LL. D., read a paper, by the Rev. James Byrne, “On the Science of Language.”

The Secretary of the Academy informed the meeting that Sir Richard O'Donnell, Bart., was in waiting, and desired that the Caah of Columbkille should be now delivered to him on his personal demand.

It was moved, seconded, and—

RESOLVED,—That Sir Richard O'Donnell be requested to present himself.

Sir Richard O'Donnell then entered the meeting, and signified his wish that the Caah should be forthwith returned to him, agreeably to the conditions upon which he had deposited this reliquary, and its custody had been accepted by the Academy.

The Caah was thereupon produced, and returned by the Chairman into the hands of Sir Richard O'Donnell.

It was then moved, seconded, and—

RESOLVED,—That the hearty thanks of the Academy are due, and are hereby offered to Sir Richard O'Donnell, Bart., for his kindness and consideration in having for so many years allowed this venerable and historic reliquary to remain in their Museum.

Sir Richard O'Donnell then came forward, and placed the Caah in the hands of the Chairman, stating that it was his pleasure to recommit it to the keeping of the Academy as heretofore.

It was moved, seconded, and—

RESOLVED,—That the fresh thanks of the Academy are due, and are hereby returned to Sir Richard O'Donnell for the renewal of his kindness in depositing the Caah in the Academy's Museum; and that a formal acknowledgment be made to him of the trust.

The following acknowledgment was then ordered:—

“Sir Richard O'Donnell, Bart., has this day deposited in the Museum of the Royal Irish Academy that ancient Irish reliquary, and its contained manuscript, called ‘The Caah of Columbkille,’ with the understanding that the Academy will take the same care of the said reliquary and its manuscript that they do of the best article in their Museum; and that the Academy will at any time return the said reliquary and its manuscript to the said Sir Richard O'Donnell on his demand, and without any delay, charge, or hindrance whatever.

“And this deposit on the conditions named was approved and accepted by the Academy, at a General Meeting, held in their house, on the same 14th day of May, 1866.”

And it was ordered that this acknowledgment, signed by the Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary, be delivered to the depositor.

The Academy then adjourned.

MONDAY, MAY 28, 1866.

WILLIAM H. HARDINGE, Esq., in the Chair.

Mr. DENIS CROFTON read the following paper:—

ON VESTIGES OF ANCIENT HUMAN HABITATION IN POOLE'S CAVERN,  
DERBYSHIRE.

POOLE'S Cavern is an enormous natural excavation in the Carboniferous Limestone of Derbyshire, running for several hundred yards under a hill, about half a mile from Buxton. It is said to derive its appellation from an outlaw named Poole, who is traditionally reported to have made it his place of refuge in the reign of Henry VI. The entrance is very small, and for some distance a man of ordinary height must go into it in a stooping posture. The cave then enlarges, and expands into a capacious passage, with numerous stalactites depending from the roof. It bears marks of having been subjected to the action of water at some former period, there being for a considerable part of the length, on top of the limestone floor, a layer of gravel, about three or four feet deep, covered over by one of brown clay, having a somewhat greater thickness. At the distance of perhaps thirty or forty yards from the mouth of the cavern the widening of the passage suddenly increases on